HOUSE RESOLUTION No. ____

Introduced by: Friend

A RESOLUTION urging Congress to oppose federal legislation that interferes with the ability of a state to direct the transport or processing of horses.

Whereas, The processing of horses has become a controversial and emotional issue and has resulted in the closing of all horse processing facilities throughout the United States;

Whereas, Federal legislation was introduced to amend the 1970 Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donating of horses and other equines for processing and other purposes;

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Whereas, The loss of secondary markets has severely affected the livestock industry by eliminating the salvage value of horses and has significantly reduced the market value of all horses:

Whereas, Prohibitions regarding the processing of horses have resulted in significant increases in abandoned and starving animals and have had significant economic impact on the entire equine industry;

Whereas, The increase in unwanted or unusable horses has overwhelmed private animal welfare agencies and the public's ability to care for surplus domestic horses;

Whereas, The annual number of unwanted or unusable surplus domestic horses is estimated to be one hundred thousand (100,000), compounding annually;

Whereas, Issues related to the humane handling and slaughter of surplus domestic horses are best addressed by proper regulations and inspections and not by banning the humane handling and slaughtering or by banning the export of animals or animal products; and

Whereas, State agriculture and rural leaders recognize the necessity and benefit of the ability of a state to direct the transport and processing of horses: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives urges the Congress of the United States to oppose federal legislation that interferes with the ability of a state to direct the transport or processing of horses.

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SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, and the members of the Indiana Congressional delegation.

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